such wall, of the full thickness required for such flue; so that the brick-work of such flue shall not in any part thereof oversail or overhang any part of such party-wall.

"And every stack containing two or more flues (except angle chimnies), must be built from the foundation to the top thereof without any corbelling over, whereby *any* upper part of the brick-work of such stack shall oversail or overhang any lower part of the brick-work on the front thereof."

Why is this ridiculous and oppressive restriction against corbelling over chimneys, possessing no earthly advantage, still inserted? We must repeat Mr. Bartholomew's observation.—"The provisions restricting and forbidding the projection of flues would be so vexatious and useless, would so deform principal rooms by irregular and needless projections, as to become virtually impracticable, and lead to the immediate repeal of the Bill, if passed into law; the party-walls being stronger as they advance towards the ground, and the chimneys growing lighter as they proceed upwardly, by the increase in the number of flues and chimney-openings, the fears of want of sufficient support below are altogether unfounded; the constant finding of the finest buildings, several centuries old, unfractured and unflinching, although from their first erection they have had chimneys corbelled out, even externally from the face of the walling, shews how needless would such prevention be."

"Nevertheless, with regard to buildings of the first-rate and extra first rate,—the jambs, breast, and flue of any SINGLE chimney may be built upon brick, stone, or iron corbels, above the ceiling of the third story of every such building;" (so that a house might be built with all single projecting chimneys!)

"And with regard to buildings of the second and third rates,—the jambs, breast, and flue in any single chimney may be built upon brick, stone, or iron corbels, above the ceiling of the second floor of every such building.

"But the projection both of such jambs and breast, must not in any case exceed nine inches before the face of the wall or stack, to which the same shall adjoin.

"And with regard to angle chimnies,—such chimnies may be built in the internal angle of any building, so that the width of the breast thereof do not exceed FIVE FEET, and so that it be properly supported on iron girders, with brick arches, or *on strong stone-landings*, not less than four inches thick, and tailed at least nine inches into each of the two walls forming such angle."

The confining such chimneys to a width of 5 feet would be truly ridiculous; the building canted-work is one of the triumphs of science; the diagonal arches, which, in oriental architecture, change a square plan into an octagon, and that again into a circle, exhibit the absurdity, in point of construction, of such a restriction, which would, while useless, be such a nuisance. The dome of St. Paul's Cathedral is raised from piers in a similar way,—the "squinches," or diagonal arches, which support the canted sides of octagonal spires, where they leave the perpendicular support of the square tower below, are such pieces of construction. The method of building chimneys upon 4-inch landings is an execrable piece of unsafe mal-construction; an angle chimney with its jambs, each started from a single heading brick, and gradually corbelled over, and firmly arched at the mantel, is a sound and scientific piece of work, and never fails; stone landings are themselves constantly breaking, and fracturing the ceilings below them. The enactment of such provisions could only have the effect of exhibiting to posterity the possession of a limited knowledge of construction by the present generation.

Dimensions and Materials.—"And with regard to chimnies, in reference to the dimensions of the jambs thereof,—

"The jambs of every chimney must not be less than 8½ inches wide on each side of such opening." (To angle-chimneys they should be allowed to be of any size, because the adjoining walls would alone be sufficient.)

"And with regard to chimnies and flues, in reference to the thickness of the brick-work thereof,—

"The breast of every chimney, and the front, back, withe or partition, of every flue, must be at the least 4 inches in thickness of sound bricks, properly bonded, and the joints of the work must be filled in with good mortar or cement, and all the inside thereof, and also the outside or face thereof, *next the* interior of any building, must be rendered or pargetted."

Pargetting the outside of flues can have no effect other than the creation of annoyance by defacement, and giving secret licence to inferior work, because such work is to be concealed. The scandalous unsoundness of ordinary flues arises from their being pargetted.

Many halls and other apartments are required to be finished with unplastered brick-work or masonry.

"And with regard to flues, in reference to the dimensions thereof,—no flue may be used for a smoke-flue, which is of less internal diameter in any section than 8½ inches."

We are not sure that the orthography of "*withe*" is correct.

We think the words "*where required*" ought to be omitted, as evasive, from before the words "*to tie in the abutments*," "*four inches* FROM."

Slabs and Hearths.—"And a slab or slabs of brick, tile, stone, slate, marble or other proper and sufficient substance, at the least 12 inches longer than the opening of every chimney when finished, and at the least 18 inches IN FRONT of the arch over the same, must be laid before the opening of every chimney.

"And in every floor, except the lowest or first floor, such slab or slabs must be laid wholly upon stone or iron bearers, or upon brick trimmers; but in the lowest or first floor, they may be laid on a brick feoder, or bedded on the solid ground" (*or upon concrete or other solid bases*, should be added).

"And the hearth of every chimney must be laid and bedded wholly on brick or stone, or other incombustible substance, which must be solid for a thickness of *nine inches* at the least, beneath the surface of any such hearth."

We should like all slabs to be at least two feet wide; the word "*wide*" seems to be omitted in the descriptinn.

Backs.—"And as to the back of every chimney-opening of every building (except backs of chimnies in the first *floor* of buildings of the fourth rate),—every such back, in the lowest or first floor, must be at the least 13 inches thick from the hearth to the height of 12 inches above the mantle, and in every other floor, at the least 8½ inches thick up to the same relative height.

"And as to the backs of chimney-openings in the first floor of buildings of the fourth rate,—such backs must be at the least 8½ inches thick, to the heighth of 12 inches at the least above the level of the mantle:

"Provided always, that if the chimney be built in any wall, not being a party-wall,—then the back of every such chimney-opening may be 4½ inches less than the several thicknesses above described."

The word "*story*" ought to be substituted for the word "*floor*." There does not appear to be any restriction in the proposed Act to prevent chimney-openings from being carried to or beyond the centres of party-walls.

Chimney-openings back to back.—"And as to backs of all such chimney-openings,—if two chimnies be built back to back,—then the thickness between the same must be at the least of the thickness hereinbefore described for the back of one chimney-opening."

Angles of Flues.—We little approve of the relaxation in the matter of flues, by which soot may be collected in horizontal and flat flues, and an addition to the execrable nuisance of soot-doors be induced.

Close Fires.—"And as to EVERY oven, furnace, cokel or close fire, used for the purpose of trade or manufacture,—IT must be six inches at the least distant from any party-wall, and must not be upon nor within a distance of 18 inches OF any timber or wood-work."

The words EVERY and IT are not in agreement. The words should run "*two feet* FROM." We do not perceive any restriction to prevent ovens from being built upon wooden supports, while iron is expressly forbidden for their supporting and surrounding floors.

"And the floor on or above which such oven, furnace, cokel or close fire, shall be built or fixed, must be formed and paved under, and for a distance of two feet all round, the same, with stone, brick, tile or slate, at the least two inches thick, or other proper incombustible and non-conducting materials."

Chimney-Pots, Tubes, &c.—"And as to earthen or metal chimney-pots, tubes, funnels, or cowls of any description whatsoever,—no such pot, tube, funnel or cowl must be fixed so as that the top of it be higher than four feet above the brick or stone work of the flue on which the same shall be placed; and every such pot, tube, funnel, or cowl must be fixed two feet at the least into *the* brick or stone-work of the flue on which it shall be placed."

We again repeat Mr. Bartholomew's note upon this.—"We lately had a case in which a zinc smoke funnel so fixed was blown down in a storm, carrying with it, attached thereto, a lump of 4 cwt. of brickwork, and piercing through a neighbouring roof, broke a strong carpenter's bench quite across, escaping, by only a few inches, the man who was there at work."

Smoke Pipes.—"And as to any metal or other pipe or funnel for conveying smoke, heated air, or steam, in reference to the position thereof,—such pipe or funnel must not be fixed against or in front of any face of any building in any street or alley, nor on the inside of any building, nearer than 14 inches TO any timber or other combustible material."

Should be "*Fourteen inches*" FROM "*any timbers*."

Cuttings into Chimneys.—"And as to every chimney-shaft, jamb, breast or flue already built, or which shall be hereafter built, in reference to cutting the same,—no such erection shall be cut into for any other purpose than the repair thereof, or for the formation of soot-doors, or for letting in, removing, or altering, stove-pipes or smoke-jacks, except as directed for building an external wall against an old sound party-wall."

The unnecessary restrictions as to the nature of rain-water-pipes are now removed.

SCHEDULE (H.)—The following are now the propositions relative to drainage of buildings:—

"Before the several walls of any such building shall have been built to the height of 10 feet from their foundations, the drains thereof must have been properly built and made good (that is to say), if there be within 50 feet from any front of the building, or from the ENCLOSURE ABOUT THE BUILDING, a common sewer into which it is lawful and practicable to drain,—then into such common sewer; and if there be not in such situation and within such distance any such common sewer,—then to the best outlet that can be obtained, so as to render, in either case, such drains available for the drainage of the lowest floor of such building, or addition thereto, and also of its areas, water-closets, privies, and offices (if any).

"And the inside of the main drains under and from every building for carrying off soil must be of, or be equal to, an area at least NINE INCHES IN DIAMETER."

We must here repeat Mr. Bartholomew's observations, that, the terms '*Equal to an area of at least 9 inches diameter*,' are not sufficiently definite, the quadrature of the circle being a matter of difficulty; but some definite quantity, as, for instance, 72 superficial inches, ought to be substituted."

"And every such drain must be laid to a fall or current of, at the least, half an inch to ten feet, and so as that the whole of every such drain within the walls of such building shall be wholly covered over under the lowest floor, and independently therof.

"And every such drain within the walls of such building must be built and covered over with brick, stone or slate, and so as to render the drain air-tight.

"And every part of such drain inside and outside the walls of every building must be built of brick, tile, stone or slate, set in mortar or cement."

Cesspools and Privies.—"And with regard to cesspools and privies;—

"If there be a common sewer within 50 feet from any front of, or from the ENCLOSURE ABOUT ANY HOUSE OR OTHER BUILDING,—then a cesspool must not be made for the reception of drainage from such house or other building, unless there be, or shall be built, a good and sufficient drain from such cesspool to such common sewer.

The words "*enclosure about, &c.*," here and in the preceding instance, require to be more definite.

"And if any cesspool be built under a house or other building,—then such cesspool must be built air-tight.

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